

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

At the outset, applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication that claims 1-28 have been allowed.

Claims 29 and 30 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting, as being unpatentable over claim 21 of U.S. Patent No. 6,651,905 in view of Beamer.

Applicant submits herewith a Terminal Disclaimer, limiting the term of any patent that issues from the instant application, to the term of the '905 patent. With the submission of the Terminal Disclaimer, the obviousness-type double patenting rejection has been overcome.

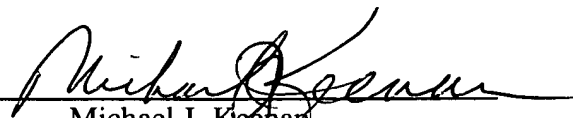
Additional minor changes have been made to the specification and claims for the sake of consistency of language and to correct otherwise minor informalities.

The application including claims 1-30 is now in condition for immediate allowance, and early passage to issue is requested. In the event, however, any small matters remain outstanding, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned so that the prosecution of this application can be expeditiously concluded.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:


Michael J. Keenan
Reg. No. 32,106

MJK:ljb
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100